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POUCH 840

XX 11707

23 April 1946

TO: SAINT, WASHINGTON  
FROM: SAINT, LONDON  
SUBJECT: Alecsei KURGVEL

1. Attached is Interrogation  
Report of 8 September 1945, CSDIC/WEA, on  
Alecsei KURGVEL.

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DATE 2006

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GSDIC/WEA  
BAOR

INTERROGATION REPORT  
on  
KURGVEL, Alecsel.

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The points raised in Brief from War Room dated 12th August 1945 are dealt with below. BAOR/Int/2428 (440) of 31st August 1945 refers.

1. Reference Para. B - IG. FARBEN-VOWI.

- a) KURGVEL, it appears, was sent to VOWI until he was wanted for other purposes. He knows very little about secret sources of economic information and his main sources of information were Russian newspapers and technical journals.
- b) VOWI had secret libraries to which KURGVEL had no access and for which a special pass was needed.
- c) KURGVEL states that the property manager of I.G. FARBEN could probably provide worth-while information. This man's particulars are as follows:-

Name: W. SCHMALZ, Obergefreiter.  
Address: 10, Bad Durrenberg,  
Kreis Merseburg,  
Masurenstrasse 16.

2. Reference Para. E. - F.A.K. 102.

- Personnel: 1. O.C. Oberstleutnant HOPE.  
(Date: Nov. '44 - June '45) 2. Büro-offizier: Oberleutnant ZIMMERMANN.  
Replaced by a Feldwebel when withdrawn on illness.  
3. C.O. of the training camp and also deputy to the O.C.: Major von RIESEN or WRIESEN.  
4. W/T Officer: Estonian Captain KURGVEL.  
5. Hilfs-offizier: Estonian Lieutenant PENT.

Location of Organisation.

The Kommando had its H.Q. in the Kumna district near Keila, some 30 Kms. south of Tallinn. At this H.Q. were volunteer Russian agents undergoing specialised training.

### Training Camp.

This was located at Leetse, near Paldiski, some 50 Kms. southwest of Tallinn. A Russian major and later a Russian Lieutenant-Colonel, had a fairly free hand in the control and training of agents and candidates until Major Von RIESEN's arrival in the summer of 1944.

### W/T Station.

At first Kommando 102 used the W/T station in Tallinn, taken over by the K.O.F. Later this was disbanded and a new station set up at Merivaelja, some 10 Kms. east of Tallinn. Finally, this also was disbanded and a new one organised near Kumna, the H.Q.

### Town Office.

Before the removal to Kumna, the H.Q. of the Kommando 102 was in Reval-Tallinn, with the Abwehrnebenstelle. After the move the Kommando 102 retained a house in Tallinn as a courier-post where one German soldier was on duty and where, from time to time, people could spend the night.

### Size of Kommando 102.

- a) 5 Commissioned Officers mentioned above.
- b) About 20 German N.C.O.'s and privates as clerks, interpreters, etc.
- c) Some 10-15 volunteer Russians and Ukrainian soldiers as Arbeitskommando.
- d) Some 15-20 Russians who had been selected from P.O.W. camps in Esthonia and volunteered to train as agents.
- e) 3-5 W/T operators recruited in Esthonia as assistant personnel in W/T training. These were later released together with the Esthonian officers, when Kommando 102 left Esthonia.

### Missions of Kommando 102.

- a) Selection and training of volunteer Russian P.O.W.'s to be employed behind the Germano-Russian front as secret agents.
- b) Specific targets were the district to the north of the Leningrad-Wologda line and information concerning the rail traffic on the northbound lines and activities in the ports of the White Sea.

Carrying out of Mission.

On account of the frequent re-organisation of the training camp and loss of trainees to F.A.K. Leitstelle I Ost, as well as delay in equipping agents, only 6 agents in 3 groups of 2 men each were dropped by parachute from November 1944 to June 1945.

Group 1.

Archangel Area.

Targets were direct rail traffic between Archangel-Wologda and westwards to Murmansk, harbour traffic in Archangel, troop movements in Archangel.

Group 2.

Area south of Murmansk.

Targets were rail traffic on Murmansk railway, Murmansk harbour and neighbouring ports, troop movements.

Group 3.

In the neighbourhood of Leningrad.

Target: To travel Wologda to Leningrad with railway and to report on Leningrad's garrison.

Results.

Nothing heard of Groups 2 and 3.

Group 1 made contact after five weeks but agents believed to have been won over to Russian cause.

KURGVEL claims that he cannot furnish names of any of these agents. They were known to him only by the serial number of the task.

3. Reference Para. F - Agents in Esthonia and Latvia.

Esthonia.

KURGVEL is unable to give names of the two agents sent to Esthonia in January 1945. He has mentioned one name, EELMAA, but does not know whether this is a real name or a cover name. The other man had only been known to KURGVEL for a short time.

Latvia.

Four agents sent in January, the names of whom KURGVEL is unable to give. About March other agents were set down on the coast of Latvia. The only name known to KURGVEL is SKRAUJA, a W/T operator.

4. Reference Para. G - Meldekopf Libau of F.A.K. 166 (M).

Constitution.

- 1) Leutnant z. See ZIMMERMANN as Leiter.
- ii) 1-2 W/T operators.
- iii) 1-2 German soldiers as assistants and interpreters.
- iv) Varying number of Latvian, Lithuanian and Russian volunteer agents.

Duties.

- 1) Liaison with the Admiral operating in the Eastern Baltic, to whom Kommando 166 (M) was operationally subordinated. This Admiral, BURCHARDT, had his H.Q. for some time in Libau.
- ii) Interrogation of P.O.W.'s taken in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in order to use information for instruction and background of agents.
- iii) Preparation and administration of missions requiring naval assistance in the region of Libau as far as Kurland.
- iv) Carrying out of short-term missions in the interest of the Admiral in the Eastern Baltic or the Heeresgruppe.

5. Reference Para. H. - Nest Reval.

Constitution

The constitution was as follows:

- 1) A branch of Gruppe III of Ast Riga formed in Reval in 1941.
  - ii) In late autumn of 1941 until 1943, it included part of Abwehr I, K.O. Finnland.
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Personnel

- a) Officer commanding, Autumn 1941 - November 1943, Freg. Kapt. CELLARIUS.
- B) Group III.
  - i) O.C. Oberstlt. HANSEN who was also second-in-command of Ness Reval. Later succeeded by Major FOOT who in turn was followed by Major PROST.
  - ii) Korv. Kapt. MISSUVEIT.
  - iii) Kapt. Lt. Von NOTBECK.
  - iv) Sonderfuhrer (Z).
- c) Group I.
  - i) O.C. Major SCHWIERTZ. Later Korv. Kapt. LINNEBERG.
  - ii) 2 Sonderfuhrers.
  - iii) Korv. Kapt. WIECKMANN. WIECKMANN was working in Berlin in 1940 in the Nord-Ost Section of O.K.W. Abwehr, I Marine.

NOTE: CELLARIUS will be interrogated on this subject and further information forwarded.

Activities.

Three camps were used for training of agents. These were Kumna, Leetse and Keila-Joa. Very few agents were dropped owing to transfer of partly-trained personnel to the administration of Frontaufklärungsstellen or to other Kommandes. One batch of four agents was dropped in Archangel to work with the Finnish Abwehr. Mission was unsuccessful. In June 1943 Group I dropped agents in Russia without success. In the spring of 1943, the recruit agents of Group I under the command of the former commandant of Keila-Joa, Oberleutnant Dr. BACH (German troop officer with an amputated leg) were sent to the front line opposite Granienbaum sector, west of Leningrad. Their mission was to strengthen the fighting spirit and morale of the men who had been in training for too long or who for different reasons could not be sent on missions. Group I finally taken over by F.A.K. 102, together with the two training camps at Kumna and Leetse.

KURGVEL stated that he had no information of activities of Group III, as relations between Groups I and III were strained, if not actually hostile.

6. Reference Para. I - F.A.K. 104 and GRABER.

Information on F.A.K. 104 from KURGVEL is very sparse. The following notes may be of interest:

Personalities:

- i) C.O. until middle of 1944; Oberstlt. SCHIMMEL. He was succeeded by Hauptmann GRABER who, at the end, in the F.A. Leitstelle I Ost, was working as an assistant or deputy to Oberst BAUN.
- ii) Büro-offizier: Hauptmann SUESS, until 1944.
- iii) W/T officer: Oberleutnant KAHLAU.

Formation:

F.A.K. 104 was subordinate to the I.c. Abw. of the Heeresgruppe Nord. The Kommando had several Trupps at the front, under a single German or even former Latvian or Lithuanian officer.

Duties.

Training of agents for short missions in front-line areas with and without W/T, and penetrative missions in hinterland with radio communications.

Areas covered:

- i) F.A.K. 104 worked largely in operational theatres of Heeresgruppe Nord.
- ii) General confusion existed regarding boundaries of F.A.K. 104 and 102. They both worked presumably with Heeresgruppe Nord, but F.A.K. 102 was not under its command.
- iii) General boundary to the north was the line Leningrad-Wologda.

Agents:

KURGVEL is unable to give names.

8 Sep 45

for COLONEL, G.S.  
COMMANDANT, C.S.D.I.C./W.E.A.

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